

Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-11 /086 W

----- 021633

R 261540Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4983

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPETOWN 0199

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: RH, PINS

SUBJ: RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES USE HOT PURSUIT TACTICS

REF: CAPE TOWN 131

1. COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCE HEAD-
QUARTERS FEB 26 REPORTS THAT 24 "TERRORISTS" AND ONE
RHODESIAN SOLDIER HAVE DIED IN OPERATIONS IN RECENT DAYS IN
WHICH SECURITY FORCES HAVE ENGAGED IN "HOT PURSUIT" OF
GUERRILLAS. THOUGH NOT SPECIFICALLY STATED, PRESS IS ASSUM-
ING THAT USE OF TERM "HOT PURSUIT" FOR FIRST TIME IN
OFFICIAL STATEMENT INDICATES THAT SMITH GOVERNMENT HAS
GIVEN GREEN LIGHT TO FORCES TO ENTER INTO MOZAMBICAN
TERRITORY TO ENGAGE GUERRILLAS.

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WM ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, 74 AFRICAN NATIONALISTS
HAVE BEEN KILLED IN MILITARY ACTION SINCE GUERILLA
ACTIVITY INTENSIFIED IN MID-JANUARY. RECENT INCIDENTS
CONFIRM PATTERN NOTED EARLIER (REFTEL) THAT HOSTILITIES
HAVE NOW SPREAD TO SOUTHEASTERN BORDER AREA IN ADDITION
TO NORTHEASTERN ZONE OF ACTIVITY. IN CHIPINGA DISTRICT
(50 MILES SOUTH OF UMTALI) PAST WEEKEND'S EVENTS INCLUDED
TWO LANDMINE DETONATIONS BY PASSING VEHICLES AND ATTACKS
ON DESERTED FARM AND RURAL STORE. RHODESIAN SECURITY
FORCES CLAIM THAT TRACKS LEADING AWAY FROM SCENE OF
INCIDENTS TRACED TO MOZAMBIQUE BORDER.
EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, TERRORISM, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAPET00199
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760073-0523
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760211/aaaaajdw.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CAPE TOWN 131
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: castelsl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by castelsl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES USE HOT PURSUIT TACTICS
TAGS: PINS, RH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006